



IFW

KAS-241

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: H. AKITA et al.
Serial No.: 10/529,915
Filed: April 1, 2005
For: SLIDE BEARING ASSEMBLY AND SLIDE BEARING
Group: 3682
Examiner: T. Hannon

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 8, 2007

Sir:

The following is in response to the January 17, 2007 Office Action in which the Examiner alleges that restriction under 35 USC §121 is required and requests Applicants to elect one of the alleged inventions.

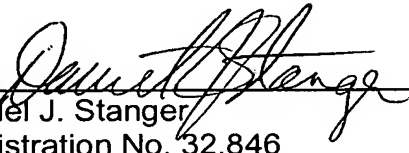
In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants hereby elect without traverse Invention I, claims 1, 3-7 and 9-14 for further prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, an Office Action examining claims 1, 3-7 and 9-14 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to

the deposit account of Mattingly, Stanger & Malur, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (KAS-241).

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.



Daniel J. Stanger
Registration No. 32,846

DJS/sdb
(703) 684-1120